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that thy blessing may be richly given to all the representatives of our national government, and to those who come from the different commonwealths of the republic and are gathered with us at this hour, and to the officers of the Columbian Exposition. Unite us all into a glorious commonwealth of love and loyalty and national aspiration. And may thy favor be shown unto thy servant, the vice-president of our country, and give thine especial grace to our beloved chief magistrate, whose sorrow is our grief. O Ruler of nations, thou art the Redeemer and Comforter. We put our confidence in thee, and look forward to that blessed city on high, where the hand of our Father shall wipe away all our tears.

And now, O God, grant that, not only upon us who dwell in this land, but also upon the representatives of other nations assembled with us, thy favor may descend. Let thy blessing be with the rulers of the earth, with the beloved queen of Great Britain and empress of India, with the president of the French republic, with the emperors of Germany and Russia, of China and Japan, with the rulers of Spain and Italy, with the monarchs who represent the faith of Islam, and with the presidents of all the American republics and with those who rule in the dominion of Canada, and with all their people, and may the movement which we inaugurate to-night hasten the time when the nations shall no more learn the arts of war, when fraternity and kindness and true toleration shall everywhere prevail, when liberty shall be universal, and when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and to thy name shall be the praise forever. Amen.

### RUMSELLING AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

BY JOSEPH COOK.

Why is any rumselling under national auspices at the World's Fair to be resisted?

1. Rumselling under national auspices at the World's Fair is an insult to the schools of the land. Thirty-five States now require that children shall be educated in the latest truths of science in regard to alcohol and other narcotics. The best of the authorized text books in these schools teach total abstinence. Unless the laws for scientific instruction are obeyed, certain penalties fall upon school committees in all but nine States of the Union. The national government has similar laws in regard to all the schools under its charge. The rule of compulsory scientific temperance instruction now covers all our territories in the District of Columbia, and the Naval Academy at Annapolis and the Military School at West Point. It is violent and absurd self-contradiction for the government to insist on scientific temperance instruction in all the institutions under its care and yet to open a rumshop at Chicago. It is bold defiance of the principles now imbedded in national legislation to give the funds of the general government and the sanction of its great and good name to the support of whiskey saloons. When all but a few States of the Republic have passed compulsory temperance education laws, and several States have made the liquor traffic an outlaw, it is audacious assumption of power on the part of our representatives in Washington to sanction rumselling under national auspices at Chicago.

2. National rumselling at the World's Fair is an insult to the churches of the land. Almost all the Protestant denominations now exclude rumsellers from church

membership. The heroic utterance of the Methodist Church has become a watchword of reform: "The liquor traffic can never be legalized without sin." The Presbyterian Church admits no rumseller to membership. So far as I know, the Baptist and Congregational churches follow the same rule. More and more stern advice is being given every year to rumsellers by Roman Catholic prelates. To say nothing of the intelligence and the virtue of church members, it is certain that the friends of the churches represent the larger part of the property of the land. The most cherished and sacred convictions of the religious portion of our population are ruthlessly invaded by the proposal to make the government responsible for an international rumshop.

3. Rumselling at the World's Fair under national auspices is an insult and a menace to every home in the land. If the voice of womanhood could be heard on this subject, the Goddess of Liberty would need no other defenders than the sisters and the mothers, many of them widows and orphans, whose dearest interests are imperilled by every instance of the truckling subserviency of politicians to the whiskey rings.

4. Rumselling at the World's Fair is an insult to the workingmen whose greatest enemy is the saloon. Let Mr. Powderly be called on, let the sound heads in the labor unions of the land, let the chief representatives of honest toil speak out, and it will be found that the demand for rumselling, as well as for Sunday opening, comes from the whiskey rings, and not from workingmen. In Europe the workingmen have resisted again and again the driving of the thin end of the wedge of Sabbath desecration. They have declined to assist in the opening of the great museums and art galleries on Sundays, because they were convinced that these invasions of the rest day were being pushed by those whose interests were chiefly concerned in the fleecing of the poor. Sunday closing means, for the liquor traffic, a loss of about a third of its profits; and therefore, of course, the liquor traffic tramples on the Sunday laws, and, in so doing, opposes the dearest interests of the whole immense class of the toiling poor.

5. Rumselling at the World's Fair under national auspices is an insult to all who ask for purity in municipal government and who would diminish the power of the whiskey rings in controlling politics. Municipal misrule under the whiskey rings is breaking down the Sunday laws of great cities, and, indeed, all other laws that oppose the liquor traffic. The audacities of the whiskey rings are now rising to the point of undisputed infamy. In New York State laws against the liquor traffic are so poorly executed to-day that almost no restraint is felt by the rumseller, but the whiskey rings are asking for the abolition of every kind of restriction. They ask also for the legalization of gambling hells. They have actually begun a legislative movement in favor of the legalization of brothels. It is very well known that in great cities the legalization of the gilded saloon means practically the legalization of the gambling hell and of the brothel. These three monsters are the trinity of infamy which makes up the chief horror and mischief of the whiskey rings. Giving rumselling national sanction in the World's Fair is only to add prestige to a gang of corruptionists who are now the chief portent of evil in the political and social horizon of our great towns. Dr. Parkhurst, of New York, lately characterized the officials of the government of that city as a thievish, rum-soaked, libidinous

lot. A majority of the population of the United States will be in cities after about 1920. We are in danger of falling into political bondage to a traffic which has more money behind it than slavery ever had. Moral indignation against slavery rose slowly, but became a dominant national force after slavery fired on Fort Sumter. . . .

6. Rumselling at the World's Fair insults millions of petitioners against the disgrace. It is futile to pretend that the conscience and intelligence of the nation are not roused on this matter. Thousands and tens of thousands of petitions against Sunday opening have been sent to the local directory at Chicago, but most of them have been pigeon-holed. Some of the noblest and wealthiest religious bodies in the land, the churches of East and West and North and South are petitioning against rumselling and Sunday opening, but the local directory at Chicago is so mercenary and so little sensitive concerning the national shame that a single petition on the side of the rumsellers and the enemies of the poor man's rest day seems to weigh more with them than hundreds of petitions on the other side.

7. The magnitude of the evils of rumselling at Chicago under national auspices is to be seen with adequate vividness only in presence of the full dignity of the World's Fair itself, as a historical memorial and as an international manifestation of modern public sentiment. Recall what has occurred since the prow of the ship of Columbus cast its shadows on the waves of the Atlantic under sun and moon 400 years ago. A continent has been opened, not only to liberty, but to religion and the arts and sciences, and especially to the oppressed and the poor. Plymouth Rock, Lexington, Gettysburg, Washington's tomb and Lincoln's are parts of the majestic retrospect. Are we to go up from Plymouth Rock to a celebration intended to express national gratitude for the progress of civilization, and then on that occasion, and as an exhibition of that progress, open a national rumshop? Up from Gettysburg are we to go to a national saloon? Up from Lexington and Bunker Hill, to a national rumseller's den? Up from Washington's tomb and Lincoln's, to a national drunkard factory? There are many things which the average American loves more than money, and one thing, it is to be hoped, is national honor.

We can petition the national commissioners to reverse the decision of the local directory of the World's Fair. The commissioners have full authority, by act of Congress, to control the management of the Columbian Exposition. With this body, therefore, rests the final decision, not yet given, whether or not intoxicating liquors shall be sold upon the Exposition grounds. Every State and Territory is represented on this commission. As all the temperance journals in the land have been saying for several weeks, the friends of temperance throughout the country should at once communicate with the commissioners of their own States and remonstrate against the proposed concessions to the liquor sellers, and urge them to labor and vote against all liquor selling in connection with the Exposition.

—*In Christian Statesman.*

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions held its eighty-third annual meeting in Chicago, beginning the 5th of October, and continuing for four

days. The reports show that the Board has under its care twenty missions, with ninety-five stations and eleven hundred and twenty-six out-stations. From this country there are five hundred and thirty-four missionary laborers of all classes. The number of native laborers is twenty-six hundred. The number of churches reported is four hundred and thirty-four, with a membership of forty thousand three hundred and thirty-three. The receipts for the year have been \$841,568.77, all of which, except \$764, has been expended. The Secretaries asked the Board for forty new missionary families and thirty single women, in order to properly maintain the work already undertaken. The annual difficulty raised by the Andover wing of the Board came up and occasioned an animated debate. The policy of the Board, not to send into its mission fields men who hold and teach a probation after death, was reaffirmed and Dr. Storrs accepted his reelection to the Presidency. A number of the strongest men in the Congregational fellowship are members of the American Board, and the religious and educational interests represented by this missionary organization extend throughout all the great mission fields of the world. The interest in the annual meetings of an organization having so much to do with the Christian civilization of our time is not alone denominational, but belongs almost alike to all who, in all the folds, seek the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom of righteousness, peace and love.

On the same day that the American Board met in Chicago, the Episcopal General Convention met in Baltimore. Sixty to seventy bishops and about five hundred clerical and lay delegates were present, "not to perpetuate old feuds, but to take counsel together how best to advance the kingdom of righteousness." A delegation of bishops was present from Canada, bringing greetings to the Church in the United States. The third day was devoted to missions. The report showed seven hundred and fifty-five missionaries of all classes for last year. The amount of funds received and expended for missionary purposes was \$683,765.06. There was a strong missionary spirit in the Convention. One of the most important subjects before the Convention was the revision of the Prayer Book. This occupied much of its time, as the fifty-two resolutions passed by the last triennial convention had to be taken up and considered one by one. Most of the changes recommended by these resolutions were finally adopted.

The four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus has been celebrated at nearly every city and town in the land. No anniversary has ever called out such profound and universal interest, on the part of the better citizens of the nation. One of the chief features of the occasion has been the participation